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**Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

**Venezuela:* draft resolution**

## Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997 and 53/189 of 15 December 1998, the review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[1] and its resolutions 54/224 of 22 December 1999, 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 55/202 of 20 December 2000 and 56/198 of 21 December 2001, and recalling further the Declaration of Barbados[2] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[3] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

*Taking into account* the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[5] adopted by the Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, the particular emphasis given to small island developing States in the Declaration and the Plan of Implementation, and the call for

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] A/CONF.199/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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the General Assembly to convene an international meeting for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 2004,

*Recalling* the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[6]

*Welcoming* the establishment of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States,

*Recognizing* that, within the context of the challenges of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

*Recognizing also* the significant efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral financial and trading system,

*Reiterating* the importance of the vulnerability index as a means of defining and addressing the vulnerability of small island developing States, as well as identifying the challenges to their sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the relevance of such work to the mandate of the Committee for Development Policy on criteria for the identification, including designation and graduation, of least developed countries,

*Noting* the efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, inter alia, through adequate financial and technical support,

*Emphasizing* the continuing need for the financing of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States, held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[7] as well as the partnership initiatives presented by small island developing States and their organizations during the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

*Noting* in this regard the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the World Summit on Sustainable Development and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Singapore for hosting the Alliance of Small Island States interregional preparatory meeting for the Summit from 7 to 11 January 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

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[6] TD/390.

[7] See A/S-22/4.

[8] A/57/131.

2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[3] and of the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session[4] to assist small island developing States in their efforts to achieve sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* efforts made at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Requests* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, within their respective mandates, to undertake concrete measures for the further implementation of the Programme of Action in their programmes;

5. *Decides* to convene an international meeting in 2004 including a summit segment to comprehensively review the implementation of the Programme of Action, as called for in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[5] and welcomes the offer by the Government of Mauritius to host this international meeting;

6. *Also decides* that the comprehensive review, as referred to in paragraph 5 above, shall focus on the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States through the development of an action-oriented plan of implementation;

7. *Further decides* to convene regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States, in the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to undertake the review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional and regional levels and to identify and develop small island developing States-specific inputs into the review, as referred to in paragraph 5 above;

8. *Welcomes* the initial efforts of the small island developing States to develop national and regional modalities that are necessary for the regional preparatory meetings, and calls upon the United Nations system in general and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in particular, as well as the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the multilateral financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, to put in place modalities at the international level to facilitate the meetings referred to in paragraphs 5 and 7 above in a timely manner;

9. *Decides* that the Commission on Sustainable Development shall act as the preparatory committee for the international meeting referred to in paragraph 5 above, and shall undertake the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action and consider and finalize the plan for its implementation;

10. *Invites* all Member States of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and relevant regional and international agencies and organizations as well as the major groups identified in Agenda 21,[9] in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission on Sustainable Development as well as its

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[9] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, Annex II.

established practices, to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action and in the preparations for the comprehensive review;

11. *Invites* all international meetings of relevance to small island developing States, including regional and interregional meetings of the small island developing States, to provide relevant input into the comprehensive review and its preparatory process;

12. *Calls* for the immediate strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit to assist with the preparation of the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

13. *Also calls* for the participation of associate members of regional commissions in the comprehensive review referred to above and in the preparatory process thereof, in the same capacity as observer that held for their participation in the 1994 Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and in the 1999 special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

14. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize by 2004 the work on the vulnerability index, taking into account the particular circumstances and needs of small island developing States;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.